

# 2008 WHAT TO EXPECT?

## 2008: Year of political drama around the world

- The year 2008 has started with a political bang. It promises to be a defining 12 months for South Africa as well as on the international stage.
- Kenya, one of Africa's bastions of political stability, is engulfed in ethnic violence after a closely contested and now violently disputed election.
- The US will choose a new president with profound effects for the rest of the world.
- Pakistan had a dramatic year, ending in the killing of Bhutto, causing national riots. The country is still smouldering as the election date postponed to 18 February approaches.
- At home, the tensions within the ANC continue after Polokwane. Dramatic events have unfolded in the issue regarding the Scorpions and the Police Commissioner.

## 2008: Year of price hikes and economic recession

- Economists predict a difficult and tough year with no end to the escalating high food and fuel prices.
- The average oil price for 2008 is expected to be between \$85 and \$90. The petrol price is expected to rise. The knock on effects on food prices and basic commodities is expected to increase the cost of living.
- The US is entering a full-blown recession which will have global ripple effects.

## WHAT TO DO?

In the face of these bleak realities, the Muslim Ummah around the globe is urged to return to the Siratal-Mustaqeem and thereby secure Divine protection and assistance.

A suggested plan of action for every Muslim, male and female:

1. Not to miss a single Fardh Salaah no matter where ever they may be in the world.
2. Give Sadaqah regularly (even though the amount is small), for it grants safety and Barakah.
3. Spare a few minutes daily to make Dua for one's self, family and the Ummah.
4. Engage in Istighfaar (and other Zikrs) as much as possible.
5. Seek advice from Ulama on how to improve one's spiritual condition (and abide by their advice).
6. Live within one's means. Save money. Avoid extravagance and waste.

May Allah make it easy for the entire Ummah.

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